

**ABSTRACT**

**SIGNALLING BETWEEN ATM AND LOCAL AREA NETWORKS**

A method is described for setting up or releasing a connection between a first terminal connected to a local area network and a second terminal connected to an ATM network, both networks being intercoupled by means of a network termination apparatus. The signalling functionality is performed within a predetermined terminal connected to the local area network in stead of within the network termination apparatus, which merely converts and transfers the ATM signalling protocol messages into LAN messages for delivery to the predetermined terminal and vice-versa. The invention also relates to such a predetermined terminal, a network termination apparatus and a terminal to be connected to a local area network, for performing the above described methods and some variants.